[*Translation*]

Interest Charged by Banks

2973. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government, have received complaints from borrowers against nationalised, cooperative and other banks in regard to charging of high percentage of interest rates more than fixed by the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that serveral representations/ complaints have been received by them from various associations, etc. regarding hike in lending rate and also charging of arbitrary interest by banks in respect of advances over Rs. 2 lakhs. RBI advised Banks on Februrary 18, 1992 that while they are free to determine the actual lending rates, it is necessary to adopt an objective and rational criteria for deciding the range of rate between the minimum lending rate as fixed by the RBI and the actual rates charged to different borrowers. With effect from 2nd March, 1992 the lending rate on credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakhs has been reduced by one percentage point, from 20% (minium) to 19% (minimum) and the banks have already been advised to reduce the rates for all borrowers under this category by a minimum of one percentage point over the rates charged from such borrowers before 2nd March, 1992.

[*English*]

Seizure of Narcotic Drugs

2974. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and details of the narcotic drugs seized by various agencies in the country and particularly in Rajasthan during each of the last three calendar years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Bureau of Investigation had seized a large quantity of opium in Rajasthan in December, 1991;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons apprehended in this regard and the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity and details of the narcotic drugs seized by various enforcement agencies in the Country and in Rajasthan during the last three years are as given below:

Quantity seized in kgs.

Sl. No.	*Name of the Drug*	*1989*		*1990*		*1991 (Provisional)*	
		All over Country	*Rajasthan*	*All over Country*	*Rajasthan*	*All over Country*	*Rajasthan*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1.	Opium	4855	887	2114	139	1977	634

Quantity seized in kgs.

Sl. No.	*Name of the Drug*	*1989*		*1990*		*1991 (Provisional)*	
		All over Country	*Rajasthan*	*All over Country*	*Rajasthan*	*All over Country*	*Rajasthan*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
2.	Heroin	2714	369	2193	399	621	60
3.	Morphine	92	—	6	—	5	—
4.	Ganja	54463	2	39090	49	48210	418
5.	Hashish	8179	1801	6388	1870	4397	825
6.	Cocaine	3	0.100	1	—	—	—

(b) to (d). The Central Bureau of Investigation seized 88.4 kgs. of opium near Bus Stand in Jhalawar, Rajasthan on 20th December, 1991. Two persons were arrested in this case. Appropriate action under the relevant law has been taken in the case.

Barter Agreements

2975. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to treat barter agreements entered into by the Indian parties with foreign companies under the deferred payment scheme at par with the sale proceeds accrued from exports in convertible foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the teaction/decision of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rupee Funding for Aided Project

2976. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to initiate discussions with multilateral agencies and the developed donor countries to ensure that India's exceptional financing needs for 1992-93 and 1993-94 are met through fast disbursing assistance and loans like to sectoral adjustment;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has also agreed to the India's suggestion for enhancing the share of the rupee funding of projects aided by it;

(c) whether the World Bank has also suggested that any help to fiscal adjustment, the Government goal was to reduce the *fiscal deficit;*

(d) if so, wherher this suggestion has been accepted by the World Bank; and

(e) by what time a final decision is likely to be taken by the World Bank to provide funds for 1992-93 and 1993.94?